Consumers: communication insights

Marjolijn Schrijnen Netherlands Nutrition Centre (Voedingscentrum)

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Voedingscentrum

The Nutrition Centre

- Independent foundation
- Funded by the Ministries of Economic

Affairs and Health, Welfare and Sport



- Authority on consumer information and food related behaviour.
- Integrated and comprehensive approach
- Independent information based on scientific consensus
- Mission: We provide information on, and encourage consumers to make, healthier and more sustainable food choices.

Transparency on facts and figures

Avoidable food waste Dutch consumers =

42-53 kg or €155,- pppy

- Top 5: dairy, bread, fruit, vegetables
- Target group: women, 18-39 years, families with young children

New results end 2013:

- 1-measurement wastage sorting analysis
- 1-measurement behaviour analysis

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Policy

- Goal of the Dutch government: cut food waste with 20% by 2015.
- The Nutrition Centre contributes to this with a campaign for consumers to reduce food waste in their households. This campaign is focused on smart shopping, cooking and storing.
- Cooperation with (non) profit organisation, research centres, bottom-up initiatives and government. On local and national level.

Behaviour insights

Attitude: positive attitude towards reducing waste

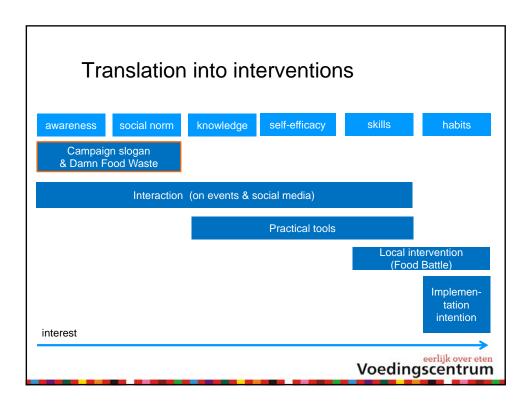
Awareness: consumer is interested

problem is underestimated

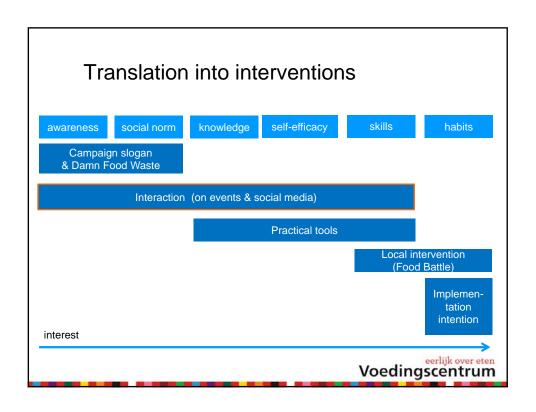
Knowledge: low on expiration dates and food storage

Habits: break through unconscious behaviour

Skills and self-efficacy are important to change behaviour.







Interaction, in the fridge

- Boot on events (2011- 2013) f.e. Damn Food Waste
- Go into the big fridge & talk about food waste
- Hundreds of short interviews with consumers





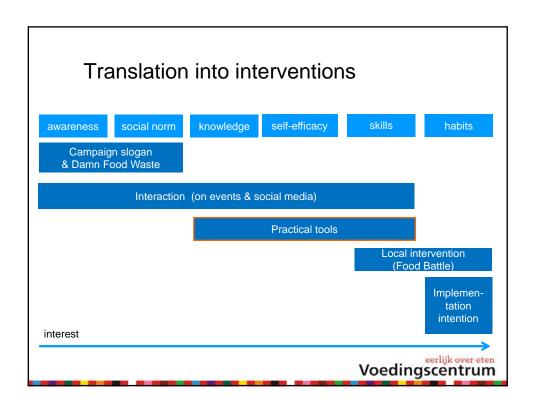
Interaction, on social media

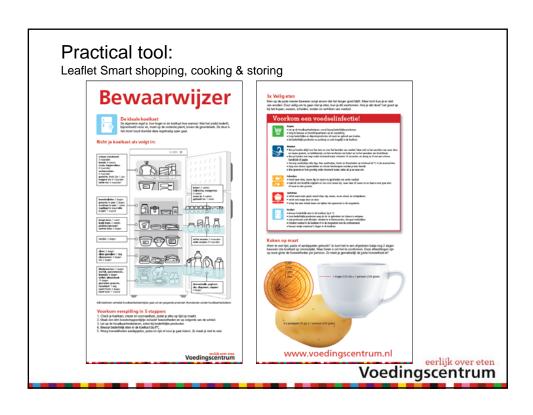
- Our young reporter
- Started June 2013
- Facebook.com/Hoezo50kilo.
- Re-use shots of consumers
- Video blogs with practical tips
- We followed the #FridgeClinic of the Food Standard Agency: take a photo of your fridge, tweet it and get feedback.



Results & learnings

- Hoezo50kilo 1,800 followers
- Love Food Hate Waste community 10,000 followers
- Interaction
- Inspire consumers
- Social involvement, create ambassadors
- Keep theme on-going



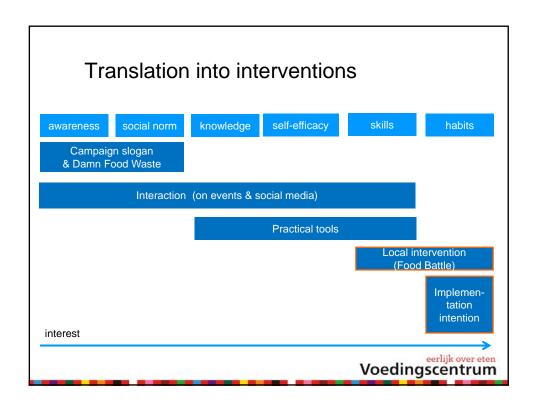






Results & learnings

- Smart cooking App: 120,000 downloads, 10,000 active users
- Consumers give app and leaflet 8 and say it helps them to reduce food waste.
- Leaflet is picked up by several supermarkets (NL, FR)
- Make it practical and visual (spaghetti circles)
- Easy accessible (by phone or supermarket)
- Focus on budget or recipes attracts (free publicity)



Local intervention: Food Battle

- Developed by Wageningen UR
- Keep a diary on how much food is wasted direct feedback
- Actively encouraged to reduce food waste
- Households reduce food waste in 3 weeks up tot 20%

Implementation intention

- Experiment
- Bridges the gap between intention and behaviour
- For people who really want
- Easy and quick
- Effect is proven on down sizing snack behaviour. New on reducing food waste but promising tool.



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Small steps to change habits

- How does it work?
 - Make an "If... than..- plan"
 - Choose a small step
 - f.e. use a shopping list



- Write down when you want to what:
 - f.e. "If I go shopping, than I will use a shopping list"
- Share: let your friends know what your plan is.



Learnings

- Just started, research will follow
- The use of different strategies (focus on several behaviour determinants) is complementary, for behaviour change.
- Experiences of other organisations with effects on behaviour change/ changing habits in small steps?

Thank you for your attention

Questions or more information?

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 - www.facebook.com/hoezo50kilo